

At a time of great social need, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) engages millions of Americans in focused, sustained service to solve community problems, improve the lives of our nation's most vulnerable citizens, strengthen nonprofits and communities, and transform their own lives. Nationwide, CNCS:

- Engages more than **5 million Americans** in results-driven service through **70,000** community and faith-based organizations each year, supporting America's civic infrastructure of food banks, homeless shelters, youth centers senior homes, state service commissions, and volunteer centers at a time of increasing demand for services.
- Places **tens of thousands** of teachers, tutors, and mentors into America's lowest performing schools, helping children learn the skills they need to graduate and be successful in the 21st century economy.
- Leverages **\$800 million** in non-federal resources each year to strengthen impact on communities.
- Strengthens America's nonprofits by mobilizing more than 3 million community volunteers each year.
- Provides **tens of thousands** of young adults a living allowance, work skills, and educational support to help them graduate, go to college, and find work, saving taxpayer dollars.
- Supports Governor-appointed **State Service Commissions** in every state to engage citizens in solving critical problems.

Impact in Nebraska

More than **7,500** citizens of all ages and backgrounds serve in CNCS programs Senior Corps, AmeriCorps or Learn and Serve America in Nebraska. Serving through **850** nonprofits, schools, public agencies or faith-based groups across the state, these citizens tutor and mentor at-risk youth, assist veterans and military families, provide health services, restore the environment, respond to disasters, build homes, and recruit and manage volunteers. This year CNCS is committing more than **\$6,610,000** to support 850 nonprofits and communities.

- **Senior Corps** engages more than **3,800** Nebraska seniors who annually contribute more than **893,550** hours valued at more than **\$19,086,292** through Foster Grandparents, Senior Companions, and RSVP. Last year they:
 - » Provided **500** frail seniors assistance to help them live independently in their own homes and gave respite services to **204** caregivers
 - » Tutored or mentored more than **2,700** children and youth with special or exceptional needs
 - » Helped more than **810** community organizations expand their reach and impact on community challenges
- **AmeriCorps**, including **VISTA** and **NCCC**, engages more than **350** Nebraska citizens in intensive, results-driven service to meet education, environmental, health, economic and other pressing community needs. Last year they:
 - » Tutored or mentored more than **101,850** disadvantaged children and youth
 - » Provided more than **339,770** hours of service valued at more than **\$7,257,510**
 - » Recruited more than **24,890** volunteers
 - » Raised more than **\$3,630,000** in cash or in-kind resources for the organizations they serve
 - » Strengthened the reach and impact of **Nebraska** affiliates of the Habitat for Humanity, Goodwill Industries, and other national nonprofits and state and local organizations including Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska and Santee Sioux Nation
 - » Since 1994, more than **4,600** Nebraska residents have served more than **7.6 million** hours and have qualified for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards totaling more than **\$17,160,000**.
- **The Social Innovation Fund (SIF)** mobilizes public and private resources to grow promising, innovative community-based solutions that have evidence of compelling impact in three areas of priority need: economic opportunity, healthy futures, and youth development.
 - » To date, the SIF has awarded **\$95 million** to **16** intermediary grantmakers in **10** states, which have made subgrants to nearly **150** subgrantees in **33** states and the District of Columbia, leveraging **\$250 million** in additional private and non-federal dollars in matching funds.

Nebraska Project Highlights

- Before the Rural Improvement for Schooling & Employment (RISE) **AmeriCorps** program, no services helped troubled rural Nebraskans grow their skills and avoid recidivism. The success of RISE AmeriCorps in aiding those on probation is seen dramatically in the work of AmeriCorps Specialist Sarah Astrones did with a Grand Island woman who faced the possibility of 35 years in prison. Sarah first gained the trust of this withdrawn and despondent probationer. As they worked together, the woman excelled and developed a sense of confidence. With Sarah's support, she has gained full-time employment, is working toward her GED, and is donating time to charitable causes. Her RISE program certificate of completion is framed and she credits the program with teaching her to believe in herself and succeed.
- The efforts of four AmeriCorps **VISTA** members at Omaha's Cities of Service increased the level of community service. My Community, Our Children, a mentoring initiative for at-risk youth, facilitated 296 new long-term mentor matches and increased the number of agencies meeting national best-practice standards by 25 percent. The Lemonade Day project, a citywide afterschool event, teaching entrepreneurial skills engaged 1,740 youth. Neighborhood Restoration, an initiative to assess needs and engage volunteers, has resulted in 10 projects and 151 volunteers recruited with 80 percent living in the neighborhoods they are serving. Nonprofit Capacity Building offered technical assistance improving organizational capacity to recruit and maintain skilled volunteers, as well as training to 38 nonprofits, of which 67 percent increased the number of targeted volunteers and 73 percent implemented new resources for accessing volunteers.
- In Nebraska, 4,993 **Senior Corps** volunteers contributed 1.07 million hours of service while addressing critical needs and saving taxpayers over \$17.9 million dollars. For example, RSVP volunteer Cheryl Harris, responding to the growing needs of hungry children in rural Nebraska, partnered with Box Butte Family Focus Coalition and Alliance Public Schools to launch a Backpack Program, providing supplemental food to elementary school children on the weekends and holiday vacations, resulting in 1,340 Backpacks being distributed. An additional 386 Foster Grandparent volunteers served 2,349 children during the school year providing mentoring assistance increasing identified children's ability to maintain grade level success. The 177 Senior Companion volunteers serving kept 504 homebound clients independent and socially engaged saving the state over \$33 million dollars by preventing premature institutionalization.
- AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (**NCCC**) has completed over 73,000 hours of service in Nebraska since 2000. Among other accomplishments, NCCC has recruited and coordinated 20,000 volunteers, assisted over 1,900 people with disabilities, cleared over 45 acres of exotic vegetation or unwanted brush, planned or conducted 35 community wide activities, and constructed or renovated over 110 homes. Recent project highlights include NCCC's support of the Pawnee City Historical Society in Pawnee City. This museum is easily the best known feature of Pawnee City. It contributes to the vitality of the community and to the pioneer and local history education of people of all ages. NCCC members assisted with painting historical buildings, landscaping, and conducting museum tours.